

**The Current Age**

**MATTHEW 13** – Jesus gives us the Kingdom parables which describe the time period between His First and Second Comings. **MATTHEW 11** in this chapter and the next, the Kingdom was offered to the Jews but they rejected Jesus as their Messiah (vv1-6) *‘And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.’* (vv20-24) Jesus rebukes the Israel for their unrepentant hearts and rejection of Him as their Messiah. (vv28-30) *‘Come unto Me...I will give you rest...learn of Me, or I am gentle and lowly in heart...’* in the midst of this rejection by Israel nationally, Jesus calls out to individuals just as He does today. Jesus promises far more than mere rest, He will rejuvenate your life, a brand-new life.

**MATTHEW 12** the Jewish leaders not only reject Jesus but claim His power comes from Satan! (v24) *‘Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.’* At this point God’s offer of the Kingdom to Israel was thereby altered, its coming delayed until Jesus will return and set up His 1000-year Millennial Kingdom on Earth. (vv46-50) *‘For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.’* Jesus introduces a whole new standard for a relationship with God not based on heritage.

**MATTHEW 13 – The Kingdom of Heaven Parables**

Due to their rejection of Jesus by Israel, Jesus now gives a series of parables to teach the new form the Kingdom would take between the period of His First and Second Comings. **The Kingdom of Heaven is the sphere where God’s rule is acknowledged.** This has two aspects: 1. **Outward profession (both genuine and counterfeit)** 2. **Inner reality.** The Kingdom of Heaven has 5 distinct phases in the Word of God: 1. **Old Testament Phase** – in which it was prophesied. 2. **‘At hand’ Phase** – when King Jesus was present. 3. **Interim Phase** – between Jesus’ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> comings; consisting of those on earth who profess Him (both genuine and counterfeit) 4. **Millennial Phase** – the 1,000-year reign of Christ on earth 5. **Everlasting Kingdom.** Every Bible reference to the Kingdom fits into one of these phases.

**MATTHEW 13** deals with **the interim phase**, the Kingdom in its inner reality is made up of true believers by conversion from Pentecost to the Rapture; but there are also false professors, children of the Devil, who make up the interim phase.

**MATTHEW 13 The Parable of the Sower (Soils)** (vv1-9) the age we live in between Jesus’ First and Second Comings will be characterized by the sowing of Gospel seed unto different soils (vv18-23) the seed

planted is the same but the condition of the soil (heart) is what determines growth. **PROVERBS 2:1-7** allowing God’s Word to flood our souls will keep our hearts soft. **JOHN 8:41-47** *‘He who is of God hears God’s word; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.’* that is encouragement for the believer and a warning for those who will not come to Jesus and take heed of His call to repent of sin and turn to Him. **JOHN 10:24-31** Follow Jesus.

**MATTHEW 13** (vv10-17) Jesus gives us a vital lesson about why He teaches in parables: parables will reveal truth to those who genuinely seek truth; and they will hide truth from those who have hard hearts.

**The Parable of the Wheat and Tares**

(vv24-30, 36-43) Jesus interprets this parable also which helps us study all the others. (vv37,38) the Sower of the good seed is Jesus Himself, He sowed directly when He walked on Earth, and now sows through His servants. *‘The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one’* Jesus tells us the meaning of this parable; the field is the world, not the church. The children of God and the children of the Devil grow side by side in the world. (vv39-42) *‘The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.’* The time frame is the end of the interim phase of the Kingdom when Jesus returns in glory. The angels will separate the wheat and the tares when Jesus returns. During our time, there is no forcible separation of the wheat and tares in the world (not the church). *‘As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.’* This establishes the time covered by the Kingdom Parables; from the time Jesus walked the earth to the time of His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming in glory as He sets up His Millennial Kingdom.

**2 THESSALONIANS 1:7-10** at His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, the angels will gather the wicked and cast them into eternal condemnation. **REVELATION 19:11-15** judgment comes when Jesus returns.

**A Word about the Church:** in the parables, the field is the world, not the church, and many teachers confuse the two. Carefully read about the church, we are not to allow tares to come in among us **1 CORINTHIANS 5:1-13;** **2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-18** In the world there are children of God and children of Satan growing side by side; but that should not be the situation in the church.

Jesus returns to reap; Satan’s children will be here until Jesus returns. Post-millennialists teach that the Gospel will make the world better and better, and then Jesus will return; not so! Look for Jesus!

# **End Times**

**Studying  
The Prophetic  
Word Of God**



# **End Times**

**The Current  
Age**

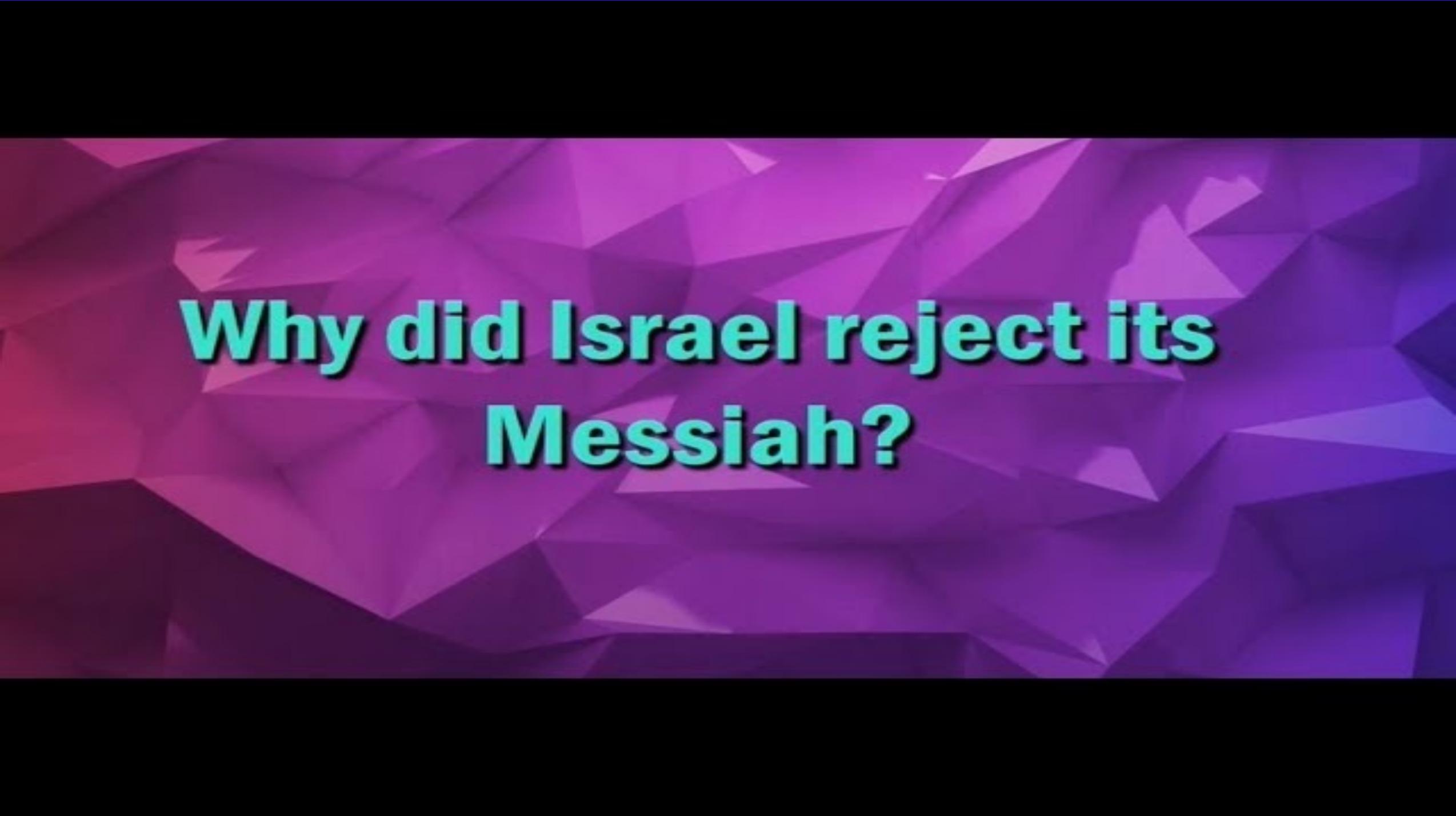


# Matthew 13

*Parables of  
the Kingdom*

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE...





**Why did Israel reject its  
Messiah?**

**Mat 11:6** And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in Me.

- **Come** unto Me...
- I will give you **rest**...
- **learn** of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart...

**Mat 12:24** But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, **but by Beelzebub the prince of the demons.**

**Mat 12:50** "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

Six of the Seven parables begin with the phrase: 'The kingdom of heaven is like...'

## The kingdom of heaven:

➤ Is the sphere where God's rule is acknowledged

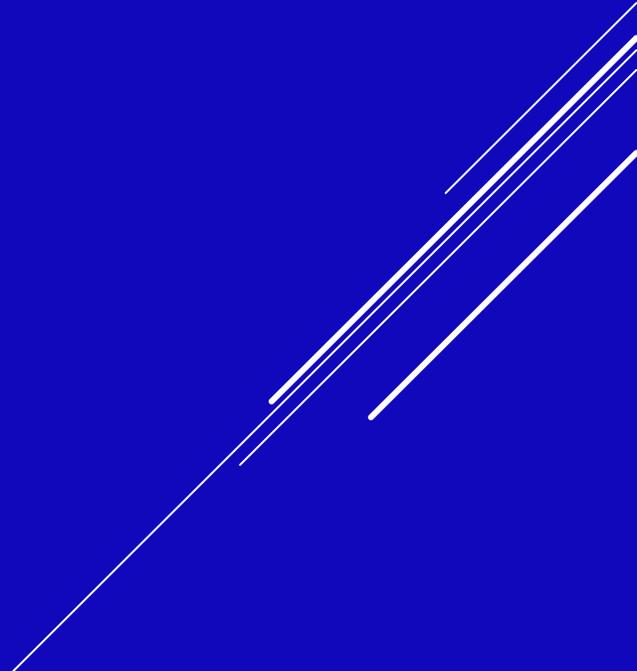
1. Outward profession (both genuine & fake)
2. Inner reality

# 5 Phases of the Kingdom of Heaven

1. Old Testament Phase
  2. 'at hand' Phase  
(when the King was present)
  3. Interim Phase  
(between Jesus' 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Comings)
  4. Millennial Kingdom Phase  
(Christ's 1,000-year reign on earth)
  5. Everlasting Kingdom
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# The Parable of the Sower (Soils)

## 3 Enemies of the Gospel:

1. the Devil
  2. the flesh
  3. the world
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# SEEK

AND THEN YOU WILL....

DISCERN THE FEAR OF THE LORD AND  
DISCOVER THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

PROVERBS

2:5

**John 8:47** He that is of God  
heareth God's words...you hear  
them not, because ye are not of  
God.

**John 10:27** My sheep hear My  
voice, and I know them, and they  
follow Me.

**Mat 13:11** He answered and said  
unto them, Because it is given  
unto you to know the **mysteries**  
**[secrets]** of the kingdom of  
**heaven**, but to them it is not  
given.

## Mystērion {mü-stā'-rē-on}

- a hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding; can only be revealed by Divine revelation
- previously hidden, but now revealed



# The Wheat And The Tares

# Matthew 13:36

King James Version

Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

**Luke 10** And Martha had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving...Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. **"But one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."**

Mat 13:38 The **field** is the **world**; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

In the Parable, "*the **field** is the **world**,*" not the **church!**

WHEAT

TARES

Wheat and tares look very similar, and it takes an experienced eye to discern between them.

**Mat 13:39** The enemy that sowed them is the devil; **the harvest is the end of the world [age];** and the reapers are the angels.

**Mat 13:40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world [age].

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- **2 Thessalonians 1:7-8** And to you who are troubled rest with us, **when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire** taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Mat 13:43** Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

In the Parable, the **field** is the **world**, not the **church!**

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**1Cor 5:2** And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be **taken away from among you.**

**1Cor 5:11** But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with **any so-called brother** if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one.

**Wherefore, Come ye out from among  
them, and be separate, said the Lord.  
and touch no unclean thing..  
and I will receive you.**

*2 Corinthians 6:17*

- In the world there are children of God and children of Satan growing side by side; but that should not be the setting in the church...
- God does not want us to allow unholiness, we must judge sin, and keep the church holy...

- Jesus returns to reap with His angels...
- Satan's children will be here until Jesus returns...
- Post-millennialists teach that the Gospel will make the world better and better, and then Jesus will return; not so!

**Look for Jesus!**